

Clandestine Drug Laboratory Indicators

From Outside

- Chemical odours, coming from the building, rubbish or detached buildings. The odours can be sweet, bitter, ammonia or solvent smells.
- Exhaust fans running at odd times
- Frequent visitors at odd hours
- Windows blackened out or curtains always drawn.
- People coming outside only to smoke.
- Occupants unfriendly, appear secretive about their activities, exhibit paranoid or odd behaviour
- Expensive security and surveillance gear.
- Access denied to landlords, neighbours, other visitors
- Rubbish containing a large amount of cold medication containers or packaging. Also bottles, plastic containers and boxes with labels removed.

From Inside

- Laboratory glassware, equipment and documents
- Containers with clear liquids in them with a chalky coloured solid on the bottom or similar
- Containers with two layered liquids in them one dark coloured layer and one clear or pale yellow layer
- Used coffee filters containing either a white pasty or reddish brown substance.
- Baking dishes or similar containing white crystalline substance
- The presence of hot plates near chemicals



Actions that should be taken upon discovery

- **Leave the area immediately your safety is paramount**
- **Never** touch, taste or smell any chemicals or equipment;
- **Do not** attempt to stop the chemical reaction.
- **Do not** turn any electrical devices such as lights or fans on or off. The simple act of turning on an electrical switch may cause an explosion.
- **Do not** shut off the water supply to the house or the chemical reaction.
- **Do not** smoke in or near a Clandestine Laboratory;
- **Do not** use tools, radios, cell-phones, torches or devices that produce sparks or friction;
- **Contact the NZ Police**
- **Do not** re enter the premises



Exposure to chemicals found in Clandestine Laboratories can result in:

- Headaches
- Watery or burning eyes
- Nausea
- Burning skin
- Coughing or Choking
- Pain in diaphragm
- Feeling of coldness or weakness
- Shortness of breath / dizziness
- Decrease in cognitive function, vertigo, and convulsions.

Seek medical advice immediately if you experience any adverse effects linked to hazardous substance exposure.

Clandestine Drug Laboratory Hazards

- Explosive:** Can be unstable and/or sensitive to heat or shock.
- Flammable:** Can ignite from any spark, flame or hot surface.
- Oxidising:** Can react with contaminants. Spills may catch fire.
- Corrosive:** Can burn skin or destroy eyesight.
- Toxic:** Can poison by inhalation, ingestion or skin contact.
- Eco-toxic:** Can harm plants animals and fish.
- Infections:** Can cause adverse bodily reactions.
- Radioactive:** Treat as toxic substance. Keep exposure to a minimum.



Prepared by:

National Clandestine Laboratory Response Team.



Clandestine Drug Laboratories



Hazard Identification & Safety Information



Common Clan Lab Equipment, Materials & Chemicals



Hydrochloric Acid
Corrosive Acid



Iodine – Irritant



Heat Source



Coffee Grinder



pH test strips



pH meters



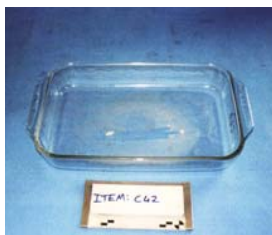
Coffee Filters



Lithium Water



Sodium Hydroxide



Baking Dish



Red Phosphorus
Flammable



Distilled Water



HCL Generators
Corrosive Acid



Rock Salt



Cold Medicines



Toluene
Flammable



Acetone
Flammable



Reaction vessels
Parr bombs



Steam Distillation



Laboratory Glassware



Separating Funnel



Two Layered Liquids



Hypophosphorous Acid
Corrosive Acid



Phosphorous Acid
Corrosive Acid



Imported Cold Medicines
ContacNT



Damp Rid
Calcium Chloride



Sulfuric Acid
Corrosive Acid

